

CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

TEXT: 1 KINGS 18:21

INTRODUCTION

What do we want?

What are we trying to accomplish?

2 Steps forward, 3 steps back.

Effectiveness diluted and progress slowed-up.

Tagalongs and hitchhikers. Sidedoor. Whse cause arev we supporting and aiding?

I. A CHINESE WALL -

Stock Market Crash of 1929.

(Buying & Selling)

Psalm 101:3 -- I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me.

1 Peter 2:11 - Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;

1. The Reason for their Silence

...the people answered him not a word.
(Conflicting Interests)

2. BAAL, 2 Interests, vs. 21

from 1166; a master; hence, a husband, or (figuratively) owner

II. Conflict of Interest

(Compromising what's Important)

1. COI Occurs when a person is involved in multiple interests one of which could possibly corrupt motivation.
2. The Conflict Usually Isn't Obvious in the Beginning. It exists whether or not the person is influenced.

a. Gifts from Friends

Genesis 14:21-23 -- And the king of Sodom said unto Abram, Give me the persons, and take the goods to thyself. 22 And Abram said to the king of Sodom, I have lift up mine hand unto the LORD, the most high God, the possessor of heaven and earth, 23 That I will not take from a thread even to a shoelatchet, and that I will not take any thing that is thine, lest thou shouldest say, I have made Abram rich:

Give God the Glory!

b. Self-Dealing (On both sides of a deal.) (Corpse On Bench)

Genesis 21:8-12 -- And the child grew, and was weaned: and Abraham made a great feast the same day that Isaac was weaned. 9 ¶ And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, which she had born unto Abraham, mocking. 10 Wherefore she said unto Abraham, Cast out this bondwoman and her son: for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, even with Isaac. 11 And the thing was very grievous in Abraham's sight because of his son. 12 And God said unto Abraham, Let it not be grievous in thy sight because of the lad, and because of thy bondwoman; in all that Sarah hath said unto thee, hearken unto her voice; for in Isaac shall thy seed be called.

Take sides with God against ourself.

c. Outside Employment (Achan)

Joshua 22:20 -- Did not Achan the son of Zerah commit a trespass in the accursed thing, and wrath fell on all the congregation of Israel? and that man perished not alone in his iniquity.

d. Family Interests

Eli and his sons Hophni and Phineas offering strange fire.

(Hannah had revival in the midst of this mess!)

---Laurie and Country Music Competition and Her Daughter now.

Caleb -- WHOLLY FOLLOWED THE LORD
-- (no conflicting interests)

Joshua 14:14 -- Hebron therefore became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite unto this day, because that he wholly followed the LORD God of Israel.

III. Consume the Stones, vs. 37-38

The Altar was Broken Down

12 Stones (1 for each tribe)

"Israel shall be thy name" --

BACK IN PLACE

Water was poured (3 barrels,
submission and obedience)

SANCTIFY THE SERVICE

vs. 38, Consume...the stones...